

IN THE CLAIMS:

List of Claims:

1. A method for supporting energy conservation by using a computer for the purpose of reducing consumption of energy such as electric power, gas and/or water supply used at home, the method comprising the steps of:

calculating reduced portion of expenses obtained by energy conservation effect of an energy conservation support device when installing the energy conservation support device having energy conservation effect of reducing energy consumption in a house;

calculating a payment amount of amortization payment for facility cost when the energy conservation support device is installed; and

comparing the reduced portion of the expenses with the payment amount and displaying the comparison result for supporting the decision of whether the energy conservation support device should be installed or not.

2. A method for supporting energy conservation by using a computer for the purpose of reducing consumption of energy such as electric power, gas and/or water supply used at home, the method comprising the steps of:

calculating reduced portion of expenses obtained by both energy conservation effect of the installed energy conservation support device and energy conservation effect of an additional energy generator when installing an

additional energy conservation support device having energy conservation effect of reducing energy consumption in a house in which the energy conservation support device is already installed;

calculating a payment amount of amortization payment for both facility cost of the installed energy conservation support device and facility cost of the additional energy generator when it is installed; and

comparing the reduced portion of the expenses with the payment amount and displaying the comparison result for supporting the decision of whether the energy generator should be installed or not.

3. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

memorizing an energy conservation table or a device list including plural energy conservation support device items and their energy conservation effects and facility costs in advance;

entering energy consumption of each month during one or more years in the past;

estimating energy consumption by usage in each month in accordance with variation of the energy consumption in each month; and

selecting an effective energy conservation support device from the energy conservation table in accordance with the energy consumption by usage so as to install the device.

4. A method for supporting energy conservation by using a computer for the purpose of reducing consumption of energy such as electric power, gas and/or water supply used at home, wherein when installing an energy conservation support device having energy conservation effect of reducing energy consumption in a house, the method comprises:

a first step for determining an energy conservation device that can be expected a predetermined target value as energy conservation effect and for displaying information about the determined energy conservation device on a display for installation; and

a second step for determining a second target value of energy conservation effect due to both the energy conservation device installed in accordance with the display of the first step and an additional energy generator to be installed, and for displaying information about the additional energy generator to be installed at the time point when amortization period of facility cost for the energy generator to be installed becomes a predetermined period or less by reduction of expenses obtained by the energy conservation effect or at the time point predetermined by support of another time point selection supporting means.

5. A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the method further comprises a third step for determining a third target value of energy conservation effect due to all the energy conservation device and the energy generator displayed in the first step and the second step and a still additional energy generator to be

installed, and for displaying information about the still additional energy generator at the time point when amortization period of the facility cost for the energy generator to be installed becomes a predetermined period or less by reduction of the expenses obtained by the energy conservation effect or at the time point determined by support of another time point selection supporting means.

6. A method as recited in claim 4, wherein payment of the facility cost of both the energy conservation device and the energy generator is started by amortization payment at the installation timing.

7. A method as recited in claim 6, further comprising the steps of dividing the energy conservation effect into a portion allocated to the payment for the facility cost and a portion allocated to payback to a family budget; and

depositing online the portion allocated to the payment for the facility cost in a predetermined account.

8. A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the predetermined period is five to seven years.

9. A method as recited in claim 4, further comprising the steps of obtaining weather information regularly via a network, and correcting the target value in accordance with the weather information.

10. A method as recited in claim 4, further comprising the step of transmitting data of the energy consumption at home concerning a measured value and a target value or a target achievement ratio externally every month.

11. A system for supporting energy conservation by using a computer for the purpose of reducing consumption of energy such as electric power, gas and/or water supply used at home, the system comprising:

means for calculating reduced portion of expenses obtained by energy conservation effect of an energy conservation support device when installing the energy conservation support device having energy conservation effect of reducing energy consumption in a house;

means for calculating a payment amount of amortization payment for facility cost when the energy conservation support device is installed; and

means for comparing the reduced portion of the expenses with the payment amount and displaying the comparison result for supporting the decision of whether the energy conservation support device should be installed or not.

12. A system as recited in claim 11, further comprising:

a storage device for storing an energy conservation table including plural energy conservation support device items and their energy conservation effect and facility cost;

an input device for entering energy consumption of each month during one or more years in the past;

means for estimating energy consumption by usage in each month in accordance with variation of energy consumption in each month; and

means for selecting an effective energy conservation support device from the energy conservation table in accordance with the energy consumption by usage.

13. A system for supporting energy conservation for the purpose of reducing consumption of energy such as electric power, gas and/or water supply used at home, the system comprising:

first means for selecting an energy conservation device that can be expected a predetermined target value as energy conservation effect when installing an energy conservation support device having energy conservation effect of reducing energy consumption in a house;

second means for determining a second target value of energy conservation effect due to both the energy conservation support device selected by the first means to be installed and an additional energy generator to be installed, and for selecting the additional energy generator to be installed so that amortization period of facility cost of the additional energy generator to be

installed becomes a predetermined period or less by reduction of expenses obtained by the energy conservation effect; and

display means for displaying the selected energy conservation support device and the selected energy generator on a display screen.

14. A system as recited in claim 13, further comprising third means for determining a third target value of energy conservation effect due to all the energy conservation device and the energy generator selected by the first means and the second means to be installed and a still additional energy generator to be installed, and for selecting the still additional energy generator to be installed so that amortization period of facility cost of the still additional energy generator to be installed becomes a predetermined period or less by reduction of the expenses obtained by the energy conservation effect.

15. A system as recited in claim 13, further comprising means for instructing payment online that start the payment for the facility cost of both the energy conservation device and the energy generator by the amortization payment from each installation timing.

16. A system as recited in claim 13, wherein the predetermined period is five to seven years.

17. A system as recited in claim 13, further comprising means for obtaining weather information regularly via a network, and means for correcting the target value in accordance with the weather information.

18. A system as recited in claim 13, further comprising transmission means for transmitting data of energy consumption at home concerning a measured value, a target value or a target achievement ratio externally every month.

19. A system as recited in claim 13, further comprising means for obtaining weather information regularly via a network, means for predicting generation quantity of energy generated by the energy generator using solar energy in accordance with duration of sunshine and atmospheric temperature included in the weather information.

20. A system for supporting energy conservation for the purpose of reducing consumption of energy such as electric power, gas and/or water supply used at home, the system comprising:

a device installation supporting portion for obtaining and displaying information about a model to be installed and installation timing in accordance with a device list concerning an energy conservation support device having energy conservation effect of reducing energy consumption;

an energy conservation effect managing portion for calculating and displaying energy conservation effect record in accordance with measured value of energy consumption at home after installing the energy conservation support device;

an energy conservation control portion for executing energy conservation control so as to increase energy conservation effect when the energy conservation effect record is lower than a predetermined value; and

a payment process portion for executing a process or issuing an instruction for depositing a payment amount of amortization payment for a facility cost of the installed energy conservation support device in a predetermined account.

21. A computer readable recording medium in which a program of a computer is recorded for realizing an energy conservation supporting system for reducing consumption of energy such as electric power, gas and/or water supply used at home, the program comprising:

a first process for selecting an energy conservation device that can be expected a predetermined target value as energy conservation effect when installing an energy conservation support device having energy conservation effect of reducing energy consumption in a house;

a second process for determining a second target value of energy conservation effect due to both the energy conservation device selected in the first process to be installed and an additional energy generator, and for

selecting an additional energy generator to be installed so that an amortization period of a facility cost of the additional energy generator to be installed becomes a predetermined period or less by reduction of expenses obtained by the energy conservation effect; and

a display process for displaying the selected energy conservation support device and the selected energy generator on a display screen.

22. A recording medium as recited in claim 21, wherein the program further comprises a third process for determining a third target value of energy conservation effect due to all the energy conservation device and the energy generator selected and installed in the first process and the second process and a still additional energy generator to be installed, and for selecting the still additional energy generator to be installed so that an amortization period of a facility cost of the still additional energy generator to be installed becomes a predetermined period or less by reduction of expenses obtained by the energy conservation effect.